

JUL 24 1965

Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP75-00149F

CPYRGHT

FOIAb

CPYRGHT

SOVIET SENTENCES BRITON TO 5 YEARS

**Teacher Admits He Served
Anti-Soviet Exile Group**

By PETER GROSE

Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, July 23—A Soviet court passed a five-year sentence tonight on a young British college teacher who admitted that his "flaming head" got him mixed up in a band of anti-Soviet Russian exiles frequenting the coffee bars and colleges of London.

Gerald Brooke, a lecturer in Russian literature at London's Holborn College, was sentenced to a year in prison and four years in a labor camp.

His confession of participating in organized agitation against Communist rule in the Soviet Union apparently played a role in reducing his sentence from the maximum of seven years under the Soviet Criminal Code.

The two-day public trial of the 27-year-old Briton, who came to the Soviet Union in April as a tourist, opened the way for official Soviet charges against Western intelligence agencies, Russian émigrés allegedly conspiring against Moscow, and against a young diplomat in the British Embassy here who was said to have been a contact man for anti-Soviet terrorists.

The court asked that Anthony Bishop, a second secretary of the British Embassy, be formally denounced and, presumably, expelled for conduct "incompatible with his status as a diplomat."

British intelligence services, the prosecutor said, offered "all

possible" support, including the defense attorney, a flamboyant criminal-law specialist named Nikolai Borovik, gave insight into the sort of thing Russians find sympathetic in foreigners.

The British Embassy denied having any connection with Mr. Brooke "or any of his activities."

In his testimony, the slight, earnest teacher admitted that he had been sent to Moscow by agents of the Narodno-Trudovoy Soyuz, of N. T. S., a political organization founded by Russian émigré students in 1930

aimed at overthrowing the Soviet Communist regime.

Mr. Brooke testified that he had met the N. T. S. agents through college friends, some of whom, like himself, had been exchange students in Moscow. At numerous meetings in London coffee bars, he said, he agreed to act as an N. T. S. emissary under the guise of a tourist.

Among his assignments, he said, was the distribution of anti-Soviet propaganda leaflets, the mailing of letters to N. T. S. contacts inside the Soviet Union and the gathering of intelligence information about living conditions.

Mr. Brooke was arrested April 25, only a week after he had arrived, in the apartment of a Russian citizen who, Mr. Brooke had been told, was "a friend." The Briton had just handed over a photograph album of movie stars containing concealed propaganda, the prosecution said.

"When I was arrested it was like a cold shower on my flaming head," Mr. Brooke told the court. Only afterward, he said, did he learn the "brutal truth" about the "evil" means advocated by the N. T. S., which the prosecution said even lauded the assassination of John F. Kennedy as an example of what terrorism could accomplish.

"I will never do anything against your country," Mr. Brooke pleaded in his final statement to the court.

The emotional arguments of

Mr. Brooke's father was an ordinary worker, Mr. Borovik said, a truck driver, and his mother was a housewife. Coming from a working-class family, Mr. Brooke's participation in anti-Soviet activity was "incredible but true."

"From their modest means his parents had given him a higher education in Britain and he came to Moscow to perfect it," the lawyer went on.

"In 10 months here as a student, Mr. Brooke widened his horizons in the university, in libraries and in meeting the Soviet people.

"When he returned to Britain he taught young people the great Russian literature of Tolstoy, of Pushkin and Gorky. But during his short 10 months here he was unable to grow to appreciate this country properly. The rest of his life was spent in capitalist countries where he was constantly subjected to bourgeois propaganda."

His voice cracking with emotion, the attorney concluded: "I hope that soon we will see Mr. Brooke once again on Gorky Street or perhaps in one of our public libraries, that we will be able to greet him once more as an honest, decent man—the man he used to be and the man we knew before."